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# Message Text

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15
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /089 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1257
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A LMBFR VIENNA 0508

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: OCT 30 EASTERN PLENARY STATEMENT

1. THE EIGHTY-SECOND PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE OCT 30 WITH SOVIET REP KHLESTOV DELIVERING THE ONLY STATEMENT. THE MAIN POINTS OF KHLESTOV'S PRESENTATION WERE:

A. THE PRESENT MEETING MARKS TWO YEARS OF THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, A PERIOD WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT FOR WORKING OUT A REDUCTIONS AGREEMENT.

B. THE TALKS ARE OCCURING IN AN INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE OF DEEPENING DETENTE, MADE EVEN MORE FAVORABLE BY THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CSCE.
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C. THE USSR CONSISTENTLY ADVOCATES MILITARY DETENTE AND, AS GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV HAS STATED, CONSIDERS ONE OF THE MAIN TASKS IN THIS CONNECTION TO BE THE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

D. THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE REDUCTIONS WILL BE FACILITATED IF ALL PARTICIPANTS MAKE USE OF THE EXPERIENCE GAINED FROM AND THE NEW PROSPECTS CREATED BY CSCE.

E. THE EAST BELIEVES THE PRINCIPLES AGREED TO DURING THE VIENNA PREPARATORY TALKS PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR FUTURE AGREEMENT AND, THUS, ORIGINALLY ADVANCED PROPOSALS WHICH FULLY CONFORMED TO THOSE PRINCIPLES.

F. THE EAST HAS PUT FORWARD A SERIES OF NEW PROPOSALS IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS DESIGNED TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS.

G. THE EAST HAS ALSO PROPOSED THAT PARTICIPANTS UNDERTAKE NOT TO INCREASE THE MANPOWER OF THEIR ARMED FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AN INITIATIVE THAT REMAINS PERTINENT AND DESERVING OF SERIOUS WESTERN CONSIDERATION.

H. THE EASTERN POSITION IS REALISTICALLY BASED ON THE OBJECTIVE SITUATION AND PRESENT FORCE RELATIONSHIP IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

I. THE WEST, ON THE OTHER HAND, CONTINUES TO SEEK UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGES THROUGH CHANGES IN THE EXISTING CORRELATION OF FORCES.

J. WESTERN PROPOSALS FOR ASYMMETRICAL REDUCTIONS ARBITRARILY IGNORE MANY IMPORTANT FACTORS AND DERIVE FROM AN ARTIFICIAL CONCEPT OF DISPARITIES.

K. THE COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING ADVOCATED BY THE WEST WOULD GIVE CERTAIN STATES THE RIGHT TO CIRCUMVENT PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS AND EVEN CONFIDENTIAL



TO INCREASE THEIR FORCES ABOVE PRESENT LEVELS.

L. PARTICIPANTS HAVE GATHERED IN VIENNA TO REACH AGREEMENT ON FORCE REDUCTIONS, NOT TO PRESERVE LEGAL POSSIBILITIES FOR INDIVIDUAL NATO COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THEIR FORCES NOR TO FOSTER WESTERN EUROPEAN MILITARY INTEGRATION.

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M. THE REFUSAL OF WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND CANADA TO UNDERTAKE CONCRETE REDUCTIONS OBLIGATIONS FROM THE OUTSET CAN ONLY BE ASSESSED AS AN EFFORT TO ESCAPE PARTICIPATION IN REDUCTIONS.

N. WESTERN REFUSAL TO CONSIDER REDUCTIONS OTHER THAN IN GROUND FORCES MANPOWER AND SOVIET TANKS IS A FURTHER IMPEDIMENT TO PROGRESS AND CONTRARY TO THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE TALKS.

O. REAL MILITARY DETENTE DEMANDS THE REDUCTION OF AIR AND GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL AND THEIR ARMAMENTS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

P. WESTERN PARTICIPANTS ARE NOT YET SHOWING READINESS TO SEARCH IN A PRACTICAL WAY FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS.

Q. IF WESTERN PARTICIPANTS TRULY SEEK CONCRETE PROGRESS IN VIENNA, THE EAST HAS THE RIGHT TO EXPECT FROM THEM PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD BRING THE WESTERN POSITION INTO CONFORMITY WITH THE AGREED PRINCIPLES OF THE TALKS AND PERMIT REAL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

2. THE FULL TEXT OF THE SOVIET STATEMENT FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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